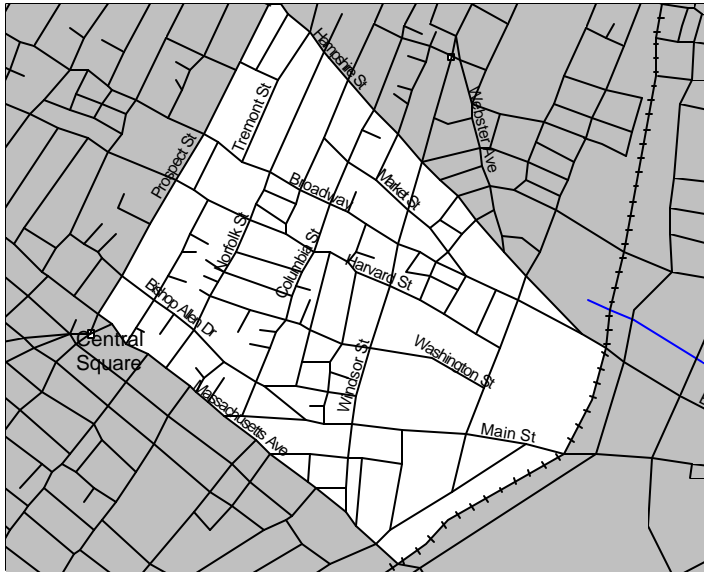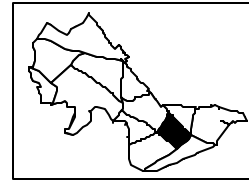# NEIGHBORHOOD 4
AREA 4

BOUNDARIES: the B&A Railroad, Massachusetts Avenue, Prospect Street, and Hampshire Street

POPULATION: 7,263 residents
                    2,523 households

AVERAGE HOUSEHOLD INCOME:
                    $24,665

Neighborhood #4 is encompassed in the patrol boundaries of Car 2 (2 officers), and Car 4R (1 officer). Also included are walking routes 4A, 4B, and 4C, and Central 10.

COMPARISON OF TARGET CRIME STATISTICS, 1999 - 2003

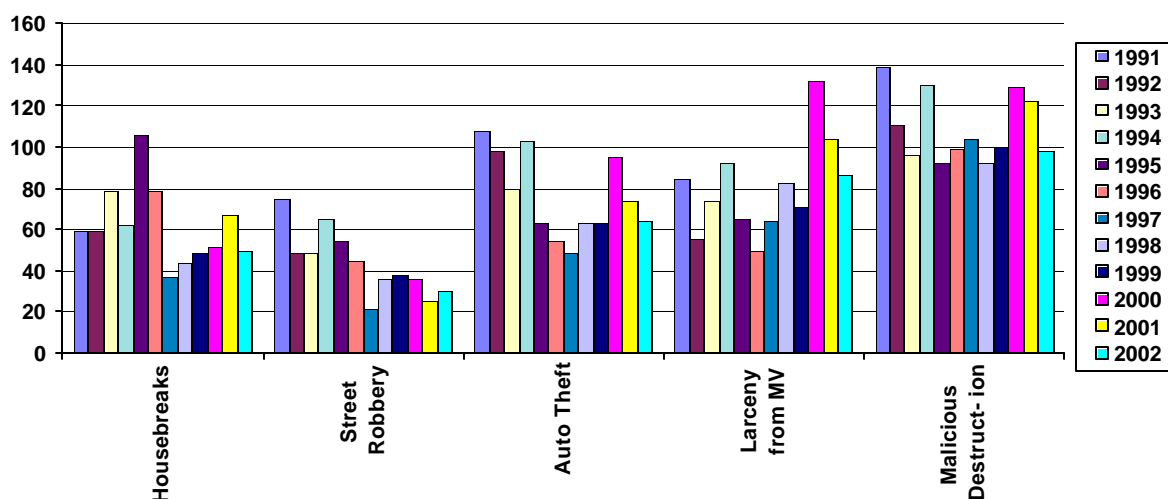| CRIME	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
Housebreaks	6	9	15	13	10
Street Robbery	10	7	6	7	7
Auto Theft	10	15	17	10	8
Larceny from MVs	10	7	39	9	6
Malicious Destruction	17	30	24	23	12
Drug Arrests	16	4	2	6	5

Ten *housebreaks* were reported in the Area 4 neighborhood in the first quarter of 2003. A high concentration of those breaks occurred on Norfolk Street (5 incidents) between 8:30 p.m. and 12:30 a.m. On January 13th, two apartments were broken into in the same Norfolk Street apartment building. A laptop was stolen in one of these breaks. • Of the seven *street robberies* reported in the first quarter of 2003, only two involved the use of a weapon. Both incidents occurred in January in the vicinity of Tremont Street and both incidents involved a suspect threatening the victim with a handgun. In one incident, the suspect approached the victim while he was cleaning his car and the suspect forced the victim into the car and made him drive for seven minutes before the suspect got out and fled with $60 cash. • A high concentration of *auto thefts* were reported in the area of Washington, Windsor, and Main Streets. These thefts typically occurred on Fridays, Saturdays, or Tuesdays, between 6:00 p.m. and 10:30 p.m. Five of the stolen autos were recovered, some with body damage and some missing items such as seats and radios. • No *larceny from motor vehicle* patterns were reported in the Area 4 neighborhood in the first quarter of 2003. In three of the incidents reported, thieves stole items off of the exterior of the car, including tires and headlights. • All but four of the *malicious destruction of property* incidents involved damage to cars. Two involved extensive damage to cars in an attempt to steal them. • All five of the *drug arrests* executed in the Area 4 neighborhood were the result of actions taken by the Special Investigations Unit (SIU). In late January, the SIU executed a search warrant at a residence on Bishop Allen Drive and discovered

thirty-two bags of marijuana. While there, a Roxbury man came to the residence and was subsequently arrested after he attempted to buy $40 worth of marijuana from detectives on the scene.

NEIGHBORHOOD PROFILE AND HISTORICAL SYNOPSIS

Area 4 has a less than average residential population (among Cambridge neighborhoods), coupled with a series of commercial establishments lining Massachusetts Avenue. Multi-family homes, as well as large apartment buildings, and 2 public housing developments (Newtowne Court and Washington Elms) distinguish this neighborhood from all others.

- As the numbers denote, Area 4 has earned the top rank among all 13 neighborhoods for street robbery over the past 20 years. The most recent incidents (i.e., those occurring between October and December of 2000) totaled 13.

- In recent years, community crime watches, the Cambridge Housing Authority, and thorough policing by the Cambridge Police Special Investigations Unit have succeeded in preventing many potential drug incidents in the neighborhood's residential areas.

- Area 4 **housebreaks** have increasingly rated higher than average, moving from the fifth to the third highest rank among Cambridge neighborhoods over the past 20 years. Area 4 is often a prime target, due to its high population density in residential areas. In both Mid-Cambridge and Area 4, The Crime Analysis Unit identifies several discernable housebreak patterns that emerge throughout each year.

ANNUAL AVERAGE FOR AREA 4 TARGET CRIMES					
Crime	*1981-1990*	*Rank 81-90**	*1991-2000*	*Rank 91-00**	*Rank 2002**
Housebreaks	101	5	59	4	5
Street Robbery	75	1	48	1	1
Auto Theft	147	3	78	3	1
Larceny from MVs	134	2	77	4	3
Malicious Destruction	131	3	109	4	6

*Ranks are out of 13 neighborhoods, with 1 indicating the highest crime rate and 13 the lowest